



United Through Literacy: Sharing Space in a Global Environment

Utah Council of Teachers of English/Language Arts 2010 Fall Conference
October 22, 2010 BYU Conference Center

PROGRAM

7:30 – 8:00

Registration: 2297B

Join us for muffins, donuts, and juice 2258-2260

8:00 – 8:15

Room: 2254 (Auditorium)

President's Welcome, Announcements: Sirpa Grierson, UCTE/LA President

Guest Author: Kristen Chandler

8:15 – 9:15

Room: 2254 (Auditorium)



Kristen Chandler has spent summers in Yellowstone at her family's cabin since she was a young girl. She began teaching writing classes in her early twenties, and is currently teaching in the Honors Department at BYU. She is a fisherwoman, a marathoner, a student of the environment, and the mother of four children. She and her family live in Orem, Utah. *Wolves, Boys, and Other Things that Might Kill Me* debuted last May. It has received excellent reviews in the National Press, and has had great commercial success, in spite of the fact that the wolves in her book don't turn into werewolves, or sparkly vampires.

First Breakout Session

9:25-10:15

Room: 2254 Auditorium

Beyond Twilight: Where do we go from here? (General K-12)

Do students who read the *Twilight* series develop a desire to read higher-level literature? We will present research that shows the reading path students have embarked on after reading the *Twilight* series. We will discuss strategies for moving students beyond the phenomenon.

Presenter: Suzanne Beasterfield, Dixie State College

Room: 2265

Motivating the Unmotivated Reader (Middle)

"I hate reading!" What teacher hasn't heard this at some point (or every time you ask your students to get out something to read)? However, every student is a reader – some just don't know it yet! In this session we will look at some teaching tools (the five minute genre book talk, the book pass, book previews and trailers, reading interviews, and read alouds) that will hook reluctant readers and promote literacy in the classroom.

Presenters: Jolene Jenkins, Crescent View Middle School, Canyons School District



Room: 2267**Metaphors Aren't Just for Poetry (Middle / Secondary)**

In this session, participants will stretch their own thinking by using metaphors. We will see some ways to use this in the classroom, and discover new ways to use this torture device to make our students think deeply about various subjects.

Presenter: Tanei Henry, Timpview High School, Provo School District

Room: 2277**Interactive Editing: Writing Across the Curriculum (General K-12)**

This session will introduce a strategy that can be used to teach both reading and writing skills in all content areas. Students work together to develop text. This discussion, which happens during negotiation of text, expands students' understanding of the content.

Presenter: Annie Robertson, Rose Springs Elementary, Tooele School District

Room: 2287**Multi-Genre Research Papers (General K-12)**

This session will demonstrate how students research an act of intolerance and then create various genres to share what they learn from their research. Participants will have the opportunity to write and discuss, and will receive the materials used from the project.

Presenter: Rachel Billings, Lehi High School, Alpine School District

Room: 2285**Playwriting – Creating Character (Secondary)**

This session is part of a larger unit focusing on playwriting. The unit is designed for a 10-12 day unit. This lesson focuses on developing character. Students struggle getting out of the narrative structure and letting the character's dialogue do the showing and telling. This session shows how to help students consider all aspects of character development and focusing them on making active, present writing choices.

Presenter: Audrey Obray, Fremont High School, Weber School District

Second Breakout Session**10:25-11:15****Room: 2254 Auditorium****Engaging Students in Historical Reading, Reasoning, and Writing (Middle / Secondary)**

Participants will consider discipline – specific reading and writing strategies used in historical inquiry. They will engage in the analysis of multiple texts related to a historic event and will do some historical writing.

Presenters: Jeffery Nokes, Brigham Young University

Room: 2265**Ladder of Abstraction (Middle)**

Students often write a series of generalizations in an attempt to “develop” their writing, but they never get to anything specific (or interesting). By giving them a visual model (the ladder) as a way to evaluate the level of abstraction of their own writing, they can then see the sentences that need to be made more specific. Ideally, this is a strategy that will help make all writing more concrete.

Presenter: Mike Thompson, Fairfield Junior High, Davis School District

Room: 2267**Perpetual Experience: Painting Pictures with Words through Image Grammar (General K-12)**

Can drawing from perception provide an experience equivalent to the individual's experience while writing? Can this experience translate into a more “painterly” way of seeing in order to help writers learn to “paint pictures with words”? This lesson will help engage students in a different way than sitting down with a piece of paper to write. The set-up, the drawing materials and the movement during the lessons are all parts of the fun as well.

Presenter: Angela Choberka, Evergreen Montessori Academy, Weber School District

Room: 2277**Reading (and Writing) Changes Everything: Ideas and Book Talks Galore! (Middle / Secondary)**

Throughout the session the lesson will highlight a variety of texts (novels) on all levels that have hooked students on reading. Because I read 3-4 books per week, I'm bursting with suggestions. In addition, I will infuse the session with teaching ideas to help deepen the comprehension, ideas that can be used at all stages of reading, ideas that can be used to engage learners from the beginning of class to the very end. You won't want to miss it.

Presenter: Cassie Cox, Two Rivers High School, Weber School District

Room: 2287**Writing to Learn With Self to Text Connections (General K-12)**

Using quotes from texts (To Kill a Mockingbird – example) then asking questions about one's own life that relate to that quote. This can be done for literature, and content areas (I think I would like to include some other texts – and some non-fiction writing).

Presenter: Melelea Roper, West Jordan High School, Jordan School District

Room: 2285**Step Into Poetry (General K-12)**

This session gives suggestions on how to help students gain confidence in their writing and be more descriptive. There will also be ideas on what makes writing paint the picture, strategies for using the five senses in written expression, and understanding author craft with poetry.

Presenter: Judy S. Chelsey, Sam Morgan Elementary, Davis School District

**Teacher of the Year Luncheon
with Guest Speaker 2010 Teacher of the Year****11:20-12:50****Room: 2258-2260****Keynote Author: Dr. Carol Booth Olson
(Sponsored by the Central Utah Writing Project)****1:00 – 2:00****Room: 2254 Auditorium**

Dr. Carol Booth Olson is Director of the UCI/National Writing Project and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Education at the University of California, Irvine. She received her Ph.D. in American Literature from UCLA in 1977 and was honored as Outstanding Graduate Woman of the Year. She is the author of *The Reading and Writing Connection*, *Strategies for teaching and learning in the secondary classroom*

Third Breakout Session**2:10 – 3:00****Room: 2254 Auditorium****Nothing But Great Books and Cool Teaching Ideas (Middle / Secondary)**

If you're looking for a way to jump start your school year, this is the session for you! A wide range of novels, both classic and young adult, along with specific teaching ideas, will be discussed. You'll walk away from this session with a re-charged spirit, an annotated bibliography, and teaching ideas that can be immediately implemented.

Presenter: Mike Roberts, Rowland Hall



Room: 2265**A Teacher's Digital Life: How to Use Technology in a Writing and Reading Classroom (Middle / Secondary)**

Often times, technology is just seen as bells and whistles added to the classroom to make it entertaining for students. When teachers use technology in their own lives, meaningful classroom applications start to happen. This presentation will give teachers an introduction to using Web 2.0 tools, collaborative texts, and social networking websites in their own lives and in the classroom.

Presenter: Mat Wenzel, Highland Junior High, Ogden School District

Room: 2267**Shift Your Vision: Thinking in Ways You Don't Think—Exact Word Paradigm (General K-12)**

This session will be a brief introduction to the exact word paradigm for teaching writing, thinking, grammar, and the integral relationships among all three. The paradigm describes English syntax based on English, not Latin. Working with this approach for 15 years, I have seen teachers and students in grades 2-16 create shifts in their vision, critical thinking, literary interpretation, perception, and relationships when they learn to see the context of their thought in colored patterns. In class, students learn the four context patterns constituting English, each defined by a formula with a corresponding color and master the colors quickly – they get the structure of the language – and then identify their “Thought Print” – their default patterns of expression. Seeing, quite literally, the patterns of their thoughts and others (their friends, Shakespeare, Cisneros) in reading and writing gives them deepened comprehension and interpretation, and objectivity for extending and enhancing their thought. They learn to design purpose, voice, organization, perspective, fluency, and style; punctuation begins to make sense because it works in sync with the patterns. Understanding the correlation between their language use, thinking, and audience enables them to be accountable in peer review and revision. Teachers decrease their paper load. It's fun to teach and learn this.

Presenters: Janet Kaufman, University of Utah

Room: 2277**Evaluating Writing in Secondary and Post-Secondary Courses (General K-12)**

Teachers often struggle with the fundamental task of evaluating, assessing, and/or grading. This presentation elucidates the practices involved in evaluating students' academic work by focusing on different types of evaluation. Next, this presentation discusses the social perspectives of grading, addressing different approaches to evaluating student work. Further, the presentation considers quantitative and qualitative contexts for grading. Different types of feedback are discussed; additionally, this presentation includes a discussion of Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act laws, which affect grades and their distribution, as well as a discussion of general guidelines for handling students' grades in public and private institutions.

Presenter: Thomas Henry and Jim Pettersson, Utah Valley University

Room 2287**Breaking Down the Sonnet (Middle / Secondary)**

How can I help students appreciate Shakespeare's skills as a poet and give them knowledge to write a sonnet themselves? This session is designed to help young students understand why Shakespeare is so difficult to read and to give them an appreciation of how much skill it takes to write sonnets.

Presenter: Yvonne Buhler, Legacy Junior High, Davis School District

Room: 2295**Conference Book Store**

This last session option is open if you'd like to go to the conference bookstore to purchase books by our guest authors.